dpr

Department of Pesticide Regulation

Paul E. Helliker
Director

Gray Davis
Governor

Winston H. Hickox
Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency

March 30, 2001

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3196
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Enclosed is a copy of the Department of Pesticide Regulation's (DPR's) 2000 Status Report on the Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act. This report is required by section 13144(b) of the Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act (Assembly Bill 2021, Connelly), effective January 1, 1986. The information contained in the report includes:

(1) The active ingredients registered for agricultural use in alphabetical order showing the status of the data for each study required by the Act.

(2) The properties of pesticides associated with leaching potential and the specific numerical values established by DPR.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Helliker
Director
(916) 445-4000

Enclosure

cc: See next page.

FLEX YOUR POWER! *The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web site at <www.cdpr.ca.gov>.*

2000 STATUS REPORT PESTICIDE CONTAMINATION PREVENTION ACT

A Report to the Legislature,
the Office of Environmental Health
Hazard Assessment, and
the State Water Resources Control Board

California Department of Pesticide Regulation

December 2000

California Department of Pesticide Regulation

Gray Davis
Governor

Winston H. Hickox, Secretary
California Environmental Protection Agency

Paul E. Helliker, Director
Department of Pesticide Regulation

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2000 STATUS REPORT
PESTICIDE CONTAMINATION PREVENTION ACT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE

The provisions of Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) section 13144(b) require the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to annually report to the Legislature, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the State Water Resources Control Board information regarding the status of the ground water protection data call-in of pesticidal active ingredients registered for agricultural use, the pesticide active ingredients with data exceeding specific numerical values (SNVs), and sales and use information. The ground water protection data for each active ingredient include information on certain physical and chemical properties and environmental fate. Active ingredients with properties that exceed the SNVs established by DPR are considered to have the potential to contaminate ground water. Active ingredients exceeding the SNV criteria are listed with the information on the reported sale and use in California.

BACKGROUND

The Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act (PCPA) of 1985 established a set of data requirements for identifying and tracking potential and actual ground water contaminants. The PCPA directed DPR to establish SNVs and compare the data as a basis to estimate their relative risk to ground water and to undertake a process to determine whether they have contaminated ground water. The PCPA establishes procedures for reviewing chemicals found in ground water or in soil as a result of legal agricultural use and for modifying or canceling use of such chemicals.

Under the data call-in provisions of the PCPA, California registrants of agricultural use pesticides must provide DPR with data on physical and chemical properties and environmental fate of the active ingredients in their products. Based on this information, DPR identified active ingredients with data that meet or exceed the SNVs for water solubility, soil adsorption, hydrolysis half-life, aerobic soil metabolism half-life, and anaerobic soil metabolism half-life. Since the enactment of the PCPA, the ability to establish an SNV for field dissipation could not be scientifically determined.

Active ingredients that meet or exceed criteria for SNVs and are labeled for agricultural uses are placed on the Ground Water Protection List (GWPL) found in Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations. The GWPL consists of two sublists. One sublist consists of chemicals that meet the conditions specified in FAC section 13145(d). These chemicals must also have pesticide product labels that require or recommend that the application method be by chemigation or by application to or injection into the soil or that application be followed by flood or furrow irrigation within 72 hours. The second sublist consists of chemicals that have been detected in ground water or soil in California pursuant to FAC section 13149. DPR takes immediate regulatory measures for these chemicals under the PCPA.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report complies with the requirements of the FAC section 13144(b). The first section lists the status of the remaining active ingredients and whether required ground water protection data have been submitted. The report lists 524 active ingredients that were identified in 1986 as being registered for agricultural use. However, 377 compounds are not subject to the data call-in for one or more of the following reasons: they are used indoors, they are used in ways that would not result in contact with the soil, they are applied in amounts below limits of detection, they occur naturally in soil, or they are no longer registered for agricultural use in California.

Currently, there are 147 pesticidal active ingredients subject to the data call-in compared to the 150 in the 1999 report. For the pesticides subject to the data requirements, the report details which studies have been received, the studies to be completed and submitted to DPR, and the study requirements for which chemical firms have not submitted adequate data.

CONCLUSION

Over the past seven years, progress has continued toward completing the data call-in for studies required under the PCPA. Since the PCPA requires that up to 11 studies be submitted for each active ingredient through the data call-in, the 147 active ingredients required the submission of more than 1,600 studies.

By December 2000, DPR determined that 146 active ingredients had adequate studies on file (i.e., no data gaps). The registrant for the agricultural use of the remaining ingredient, chlorthal-dimethyl, is selling its product line, and the buyer will incur the responsibility of fulfilling the obligations of the PCPA. Chlorthal-dimethyl has all but one study on file (i.e., only one data gap).